

Message Text

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14

ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 FEA-01
AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03
H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01
SP-02 OMB-01 /107 W

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R 071709Z DEC 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2115

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MTN GENEVA 9730

H PASS CODEL

ACTION STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD MTN

SUBJECT FRENCH POLICY ON MTN

REFS: (A) MTN GENEVA 8966 (NOTAL); (B) PARIS 33900 (NOTAL)

1. ON NOVEMBER 23 FRENCH FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER ROSSI
SPOKE TO THE FRENCH "CONSEIL ECONOMIQUE ET SOCIAL" ON
THE MTN AND FRENCH POLICY. LOCAL FRENCH REP COLMANT GAVE
US A COPY AND HE IS APPARENTLY SENDING IT SELECTIVELY TO
OTHERS IN GENEVA (GATT SECRETARIAT RECEIVED COPY AS WELL).
COLMANT SAID HE HAD SOUGHT APPROVAL FROM PARIS TO GIVE
U.S. MTN DEL A COPY OF SPEECH SINCE THE FORUM ROSSI
ADDRESSED IS QUASI-GOVERNMENTAL (COLMANT SAID IT COULD
BE CONSIDERED SOMEWHAT COMPARABLE TO U.S. ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FOR TRADE NEGOTIATIONS INsofar AS MTN IS CONCERNED)
AND IS ACCORDINGLY NOT A PUBLIC DOCUMENT AND NOT BEING
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RELEASED BY GOF.

2. WE ARE FORWARDING FULL TEXT OF RISSI SPEECH BY AIRGRAM. IT IS A STARTLING AND DEPRESSING DOCUMENT, NOT SO MUCH IN THE SENSE THAT THERE IS ANYTHING GENUINELY NEW IN IT BUT IN THE STARKNESS AND DEFENSIVE NESS WITH WHICH IT LAYS OUT FRENCH POSITIONS. THE SPEECH IS LARDED WITH ACCUSATIONS ABOUT AMERICAN PROTECTIONISM, ACCUSATIONS OF OUR DISREGARD FOR OUR GATT OBLIGATIONS, FRENCH CONVICTION THAT THE U.S. AIM IN THE MTN IS TO GET THE CAP, WHICH FRANCE WILL BE VIGILANT TO PREVENT, ETC. IT EVEN RESURRECTS NOTION OF FIXED BUT ADJUSTABLE PARITIES AS A FUNDAMENTAL CONDITION FOR HARMONIOUS DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE.

3. WE CONSIDER THIS AN IMPORTANT STATEMENT WHICH REAFFIRMS OUR WORST FEARS ABOUT FRENCH ATTITUDES AND DEMONSTRATES THE MAGNITUDE OF OUR TASK IN SEEKING AN ACCEPTABLE MTN BARGAIN. U.S. MTN DEL RECOMMENDS IT BE GIVEN WIDE DISTRIBUTION WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE STRUCTURE AS THE CLEAREST OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF FRENCH VIEWS WE HAVE SEEN IN SOME TIME.
WALKER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: ETRD, US, FR, MTN
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